

April 10, 2013

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TORRANCE CABLE TELEVISION ADVISORY BOARD.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Torrance Cable Television Advisory Board convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, April 10, 2013, at 7:01 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room located in the Stanley E. Remelmeyer Telecommunications Center.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners Kellogg, Brennan, De Rago (arrived 07:05 p.m.), Frantz, Seferian, and Chairman Ozenne

Also Present: Cindy Hibbard, Secretary
Don Fefie, TCtv Coordinator
Michael D. Smith, Cable & Community Relations Manager

Excused: None

Absent: Prior to the start of the meeting, Commission Thomas submitted a letter of resignation due to a conflict of interest with his new employer.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

The salute to the flag of the United States of America was led by Commissioner Seferian.

4. MOTION TO ACCEPT AND FILE REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA:

MOTION: *Commissioner Frantz moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on posting of the agenda for this meeting. This motion seconded by Commissioner Seferian, carried with an aye vote.*

5. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS - NONE

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) March 13, 2013

MOTION: *Commissioner Seferian moved to approve the minutes of March 13, 2013. This motion seconded by Commissioner Brennan, motion carried with an aye vote.*

7. SCHEDULED BUSINESS:

A) Community Matters – NONE

B) Committee Reports

1) **Producer Incentive - NONE**

2) **TCtv Awards - None**

3) **CTAB Rules of Order - None**

C) Report of the Community Television Center – March, 2013

Staff provided an overview of the facility usage highlighting producer projects and programming submitted.

Brief discussion followed.

MOTION: *Commissioner Frantz moved to accept the Torrance Community Television Center Reports for March 2013. This motion seconded by Commissioner Seferian, motion carried with aye vote.*

D) Report of Legislative and Cable Related Activities

Manager Smith summarized the following:

Time Warner Cable moved its customer service offices from 1511 Cravens Blvd. in the downtown area to 19780 Hawthorne Blvd. Suite 102 Torrance CA 90503 at the end of March.

AT&T began offering U-verse Internet customers the choice of a free Xbox 360, Kindle Fire, Nexus 7 Tablet or Sonos Play 3 media player if they add its U-verse TV or voice service to their subscriptions.

The move, announced Monday, could drive standalone broadband customers to take AT&T's pay TV service, which hasn't grown as quickly as U-verse Internet. AT&T picked up 192,000 U-verse TV and 609,000 U-verse Internet subscribers in the fourth quarter, and now counts 4.5 million subscription video and 7.7 million broadband customers.

Plenty of cable subscribers grouse about their ever-escalating monthly bills — but only about one-third of them actually try to finagle a better deal from their provider. About 44% of the bargainers reported savings of up to \$50 per month — and 7% claimed they lopped off more than \$50.

Nearly a half-dozen tax proposals affecting Internet operations are expected to appear on the congressional agenda, with many of them affecting broadband and cable services. No action is expected until closer to November of 2014, when the current moratorium expires. Cable-industry groups support the measure.

Brief discussion followed.

MOTION: *Commissioner Frantz moved to accept the Legislative and Cable Related Report for March 2013. This motion seconded by Commissioner Seferian, motion carried with aye vote.*

E) Old Business

- 1) **A recommendation from the Cable & Community Relations Manager that the Cable Television Advisory Board discuss the replacement of carpet and furniture in the Telecommunications Center.**

Overview provided by Manager Smith.

Brief discussion followed.

MOTION: *Commissioner Frantz moved to accept and file this report. This motion seconded by Commissioner Brennan, motion carried with aye vote.*

F) New Business

- 1) **A recommendation from the Cable & Community Relations Manager that the Cable Television Advisory Board consider a method of encouraging former certified producers to become recertified.**

Overview provided by Manager Smith. Commissioners suggested contacting producers by mail with a follow-up phone call.

Brief discussion followed.

MOTION: *Commissioner Brennan moved to send post-card and follow-up with a personal phone call from staff to all inactive producers. This motion seconded by Commissioner Seferian, motion carried with aye vote, Frantz voting nay.*

- 2) **A recommendation from the Cable & Community Relations Manager that the Cable Television Advisory Board consider modifying the Board meeting requirements to as needed basis if no substantive business is scheduled.**

Overview provided by Manager Smith.

Brief discussion followed.

MOTION: *Commissioner moved to accept and file this report. This motion seconded by Commissioner Frantz, motion carried with aye vote.*

8. ADDENDUM MATTERS

9. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

- A) Commissioner Brennan complimented everyone for their participation in the discussion this evening.
- B) Commissioner Brennan inquired about the Awards and Producer Incentive Committees meet this month.
- C) Commissioner De Rago apologized for not holding a meeting for the Producer Incentive Committee this month.
- D) Commissioner Frantz requested that staff explore improving the quality of streaming to allow for full screen.
- E) Commissioner Frantz inquired about the status of the City managing and operating the cablecasting of Torrance Unified School District channel.

- F) Commissioner Frantz expressed concerns regarding the appearance of a Cable Commissioner on a public access program entitled "Full Disclosure Network" where it appeared the Commissioner was highly critical of the City of Torrance.
- G) Commissioner Kellogg inquired when does staff anticipate the post-cards being mailed to inactive producers and if Commissioners could assist staff in the personal phone calls.
- H) Commissioner Seferian expressed pleasure that the City was assisting TUSD with the channel and encourage expanding the relationship.
- I) Commissioner Seferian also mentioned the importance of developing a relationship with TUSD to get the youth involved in TCtv.
- J) TCtv Coordinator Fefie informed the Commission of a new "Producer Educational Series" that's held monthly on certain Friday's to encourage producer participating at TCtv. In addition, to help extend their knowledge of television best practices.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Ozenne adjourned the meeting of March 13, 2013, at 8:09 p.m. to reconvene on May 8, 2013 Wednesday, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael D. Smith
Cable & Community Relations Manager